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Attorney Docket No. 0366.103  
MAR 11 2003  
TECH CENTER 2300-0366003  
PATENT 1600/230

Express Mail Label Number: EV 151 702 853 US  
Date of Deposit: March 3, 2003

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By   
Michelle R. Crosby #21

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of Abrignani et al.

Serial No.: 09/509,612

Examiner: D. Wortman

Confirmation No.: 7749

Art Unit: 1648

Filed: March 29, 2000

Title: HEPATITIS C RECEPTOR PROTEIN CD81

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**AMENDMENT**

This paper is responsive to the Office Action mailed October 1, 2002 (Paper # 20), with a shortened statutory period of three months for response. Accordingly, a two-month extension of time in which to respond is requested and the fee therefore accompanies this response.

Reconsideration of the application in view of the following amendments and remarks is respectfully requested.

Accompanying Documents

The following documents accompany this response:

1. Copy of the currently pending claims, incorporating the amendments made herein;
2. Marked-up version of the claims and specification, showing the amendments made herein;